



The President's Daily Brief

24 September 1969

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SOVIET AFFAIRS

The Soviets failed yesterday in an attempt to send an unmanned probe from Tyuratam toward the moon. An SL-12 booster succeeded only in placing the probe in a temporary parking orbit.

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The mission of this probe probably was to be similar to that intended for Luna-15, which crashed on the moon during an attempted soft landing last July. This latest mishap may delay Soviet plans for a manned circumlunar flight, which would also use the SL-12 booster.

COMMUNIST CHINA

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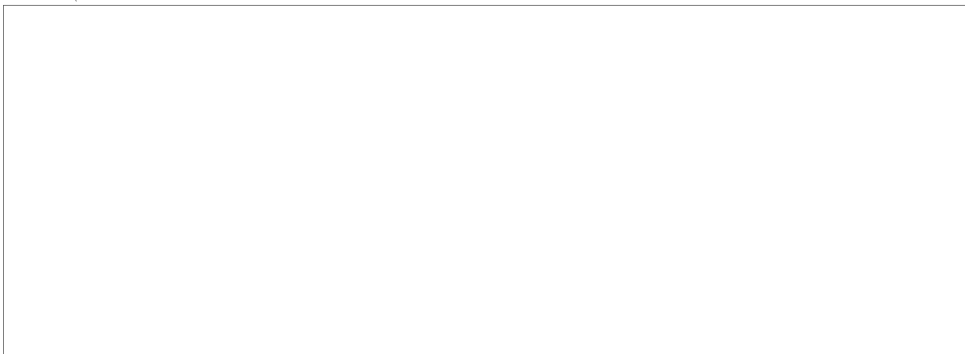
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MIDDLE EAST

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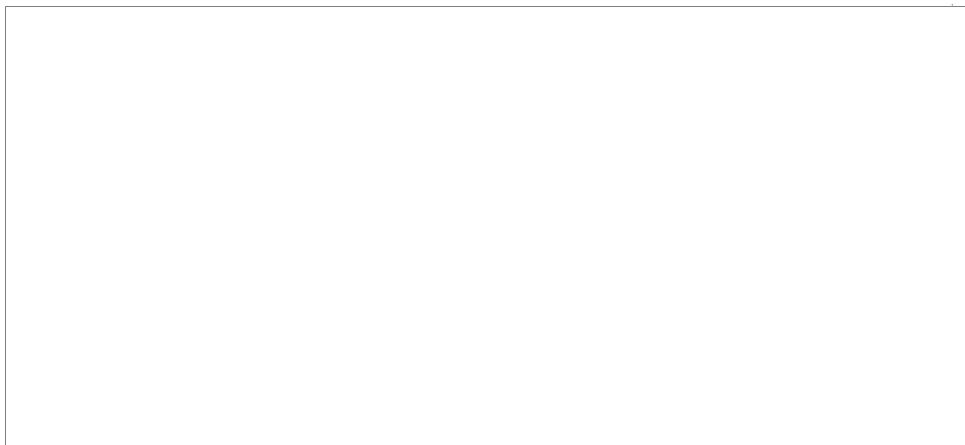
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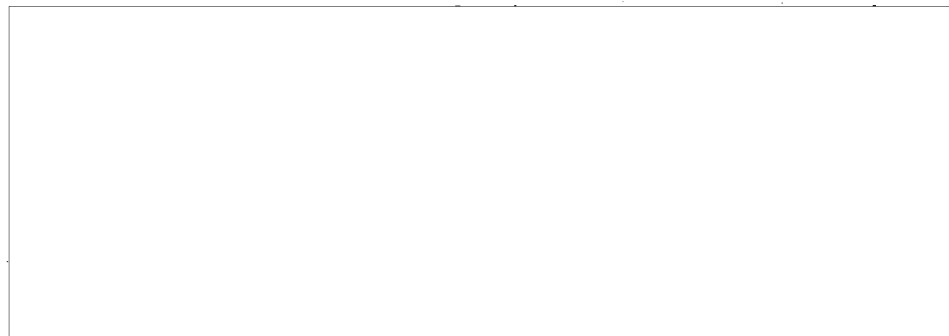
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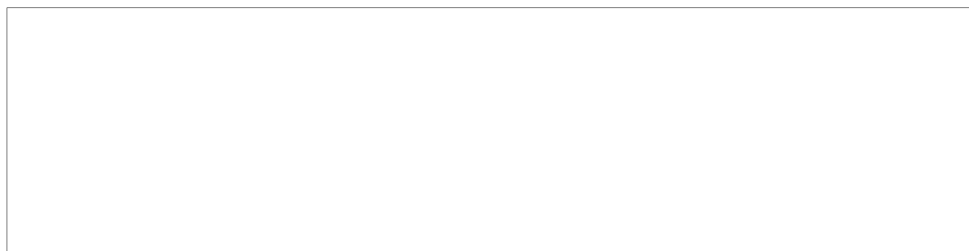


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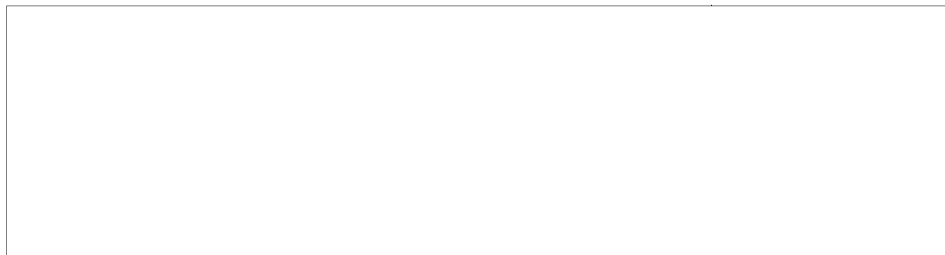
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VIETNAM

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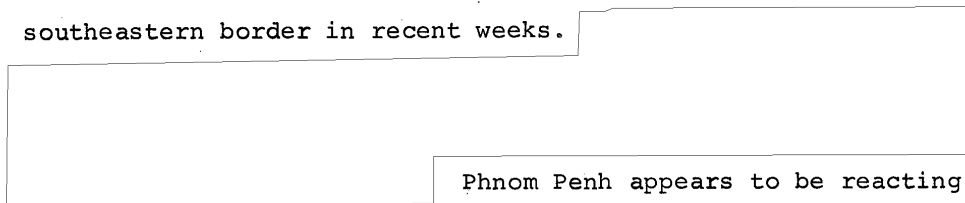


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CAMBODIA

Fighting between Cambodian security forces and Vietnamese Communist elements has increased substantially along the southeastern border in recent weeks.

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Phnom Penh appears to be reacting

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to a substantial increase in Communist use of infiltration routes into the Mekong Delta and a shifting of base areas as a result of recent flooding. [REDACTED]

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ITALY

The seven-week-old Rumor government is facing its first test in trying to cope with widespread one-day strikes. It is now preparing to face hostile interrogations on the labor situation in the reconvened Chamber of Deputies. The government's major concern at the moment is to obtain a labor settlement conducive to continuing Italy's economic growth. While management is prepared to grant 25 percent wage increases over the next two years, it is reluctant to give in to other union demands, such as the right to assemble on plant premises during working hours and the right to negotiate piece-work rates. Both unions and political leaders are almost compelled to back labor demands through fear of being outflanked on the left by pro-Chinese "worker power" organizations, which seem to have contributed to the recent wild-cat strikes.

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